estatendent or the Botante Gander Studying the Naturalized Plants of the South-Japanese Plants in the Lend-A Street Shaded with Campbor Trees in New Orienns-Experiments with the Japanose Persimmon Gunras Touched with Pract-Mrs. Jefferson Davis Makes a Disenvery-Plenty of Ten Plants but No Ten Plantations in the South-Rice Paper.

WASHINGTON, May 20. -It is a great thing to on a hunt with a botanist in Fiorida. Rosemornings, glowing sunsets, and charming andseanes no longer awaken your admiraon. Your attention is riveted upon wonders sefore unnoticed. The tiniest plant may waken the keenest interest; gorgeous water lies have histories of their own; trees growing in the wildest hammocks may boast of an origin remoter than that of the proudest king

The is a greater thing, however, to go on a bunt with the Superintendent of the Botanic nce in raising and propagating plants from all parts of the world makes his observations of more than ordinary interest.

The discoveries of W. IL Smith in the wamps around Jacksonville were rendered more interesting by his researches in the garof winter residents along the St. John's. One of the objects of his visit was to ascertain what foreign plants and shrubs !flourished in he soil and climate of Florida, and thus to cara what others might be acclimated.

There was a broad field for such an inquiry. fithin the last few years thousands upon sands of dollars have been spent in cultiting rare plants on grounds within five miles Jacksonville. Mrs. Mitchell, widow of Alexader Mitchell of Milwaukee, has a place hree miles above the city that is of itself a critable botanic garden. It contains plants from Australia, the Cape of Good Hope, South America, the East and the West Indies, and mearly every other part of the globe. There are diriosities here which she herself brought from the Borghese gardens in Roma from Erept from Havana, and from other places Some have been cut down by the frost, while there thrive as well as in their native soil.

Bix miles below the Mitcheil garden is the inter residence of Gen. A. S. Diven of Elmira. The General has served his country on the battlefield and in the halls of Congress. He one of the most charming places along the St. John's. Bare plants and shrubs, stately trees, thrifty orange groves, and a fountain throwing the purest water twenty feet high are among its attractions. in this paradise the General receives his friends and points out the attractions of his plantation. Between this place and that of Mrs. Mitchell

Keystone Bluff, the most sightly of them all. It is the winter home of Charles H. Cummings. Its choicest treasure is a live oak of wendrous growth and beauty, whose reputs tion is becoming national. It has found as en-Chnelastic an admirer in William C. Whitney in William R. Smith. Both gentlemen drifted upon it unawares while walking in Mr. Cumsings's orange grove. Mr Smith took off his hat in awe, and Mr. Whitney sat upon a bench in its shade, lost in admiration for several minutes. The tree has a spread of 142 feet. It is nineteen feet around the trunk, and the largest limb is seven feet ten inches in circume. Aside from this tree, there are some prictor, however, does not proteind to vie with Gen. Diven or Mrs. Mitchell in gardening. He provels in his river view and his green swards. To pleas the gray moss from his oaks and

dences of the severity of the winter was the bester at the gray moss from his orange trees.

It was in these and adjoining gardens that it. Smith made his observations. In all he saw rare lants which had been propagated by himself and sent out from the Botanic Garden. The senditions for the growth of such plants which had been propagated by himself and sent out from the Botanic Garden. The conditions for the growth of such plants will be subjusted in the supply of water is abundant. Mrs. Mitchell has a founding abundant. Mrs. Mitchell has a founding and product of the supply of water is abundant. Mrs. Mitchell has a founding and product of the supply of water is abundant. Mrs. Mitchell has a founding and product of the supply of water is abundant. Mrs. Cummings were propagated with the colly cascade in Florida. It pours the warm moonlight. Mr. Cummings as a bathing pool as fine as that in the Alcazar as that was moonlight. Mr. Cummings as a bathing pool as fine as the warm moonlight. Mrs. Cummings as a bathing pool as fine as the warm moonlight. Mrs. Cummings as a bathing pool as fine as the warm moonlight. Mrs. Cummings as a bathing pool as fine as the warm moonlight. The water results from a source over 700 feet under round. It is as clear as crystal, but impregnated with sulphur. The temperature is 72. The sulphur readily evaporates, leaving trisking water as pure as that of a mountain pring. The water is carried to every part of the sulphur readily evaporates, leaving trisking water as pure as that of a mountain pring. The water is carried to every mart of the sulphur readily evaporates, leaving trisking water as pure as that of a mountain pring you bushels doed if you want it."

Next fall she trough a peck of the seed with the water freely upon vegetation, and delivered into Mississippi. It was probably imported in the olden time by some wealthy planter and had become common.

ve results are obtained. 11.

The botanist did his work thoroughly. Thile he found some foreign shrubs growing wild, there were many others flourishing only inder cultivation. Most were useful, and a ow ornamental. He expressed surprise at All were doing well. Among the most thriving so many plants from Japan and Chinawas the camphor tree (Liucus camphora). sees trees were sent South from the listants arden seventeen years ago. There are may now in Florida, but they are mostly found in private gardens. Mr. Smith care that they will soon become naturalized and propagated throughout the South, like the mage, the indigo plant, the taploca, and the or pear. In New Orleans they are aldy found in profusion. One of the streets of bat city is shaded by them. On Jan 5, 1881, con-inch seedling, one year old, from the anie Garden, was planted on the grounds Mr. R. Maitre in the Crescent City. The tree now thirty feet high. It has a circumserence aftr-two inches. Photographs of it have been taken and are being distributed. Mr. Maltre sells many of these trees, and supplies Botanto Garden with see's every year. bably 10,000 trees have been propagated som this one specimen since it was planted Louisiana. We found fine, healthy specias of the tree in every garden visited round Jacksonville. It yields the genuine him camphor of the materia medica. The trees sent South from Washington sev-

on years ago were propagated from plants rought from Japan by Commodore Perry. No liste in the Union shows more fully the work by the Commolore than Fiorida. Her and climate suit the Japanese plants rekably well. Mr. Smith says the balsamic exhably well. Mr. Smith says the balsamic coperties of the camphor tree are undoutting healthful. It purifies the air and countrate miasma far octor than the encaleptus, a root, as well as the leaves, have an area alter odor. In Japan the camphor is obtained eatting up the tree and so ling the chips in locust. Inverted lowis are placed over the rough. The steam is carried into these lowled water process, by which the chips and the camphor process, by which the chips and the another process, by which the chips and the another are placed in over set iron puts, away and rushes are attached to the chips and the covers. The camphor voladities and the covers. The camphor voladities and article before it is ready for market.

The tree becomes counted in the south, it is a tree becomes counted in camphor, it is a failed to be used to obtain camphor.

and likely to be used to obtain camptor. It ill probably be sent to the saw mill and constrain for the lamber. As a venering for the state into lumber. As a venering for the state of bireaus, clothesiresses, and tunks, it is unrivalled. There are no motiss camptor trunks. Indeed, the trac is one of greenest and cleane-tim inscouth. It tens insects, and is free from worms, webs, and tube.

Table has been a hard winfor upon trees and i seats in Florida. Many has been a fraction in Florida. Many has been a far diam as issimmes, were touched. Camping trees issimmes, were touched. Camping trees oweren came out unseathed. They were ever in bettee condition than they are looked to the camping tree will take are of flacif. Mr. Smith says that the birds are followed in the seads as they do those of the just and the tree was a flat of the came in the grant has bappened in the past. Thirty rears ago wild grange free were found.

nuts that came ashore from wrecked ves-nuls. A few trees were growing wild there twenty years ago. Now there are said to be over 100,000 of them. What will make the camphor tree of great advantage to the South is the fact that it is of rapid growth. If prop-erly planted, with a moderate degree of care

TIT.

Nor was this the only useful native of Japan found in Florida. The Japanese persimmon Diospyros Kakil, untouched by frost, was flourishing in many places around Jackson ville. Its fruit is beginning to be sold in Northern markets. It resembles a tangerine. There are numerous varieties of the Japanese persimmon. The best are propagated out from cuttings of the roots or grafts. Those raised from the seed do not produce the same superior variety of fruit. This singularity was discovered accidentally in Norfolk, Va., some years ago, where the tree flourishes moderately well. A drain was cut through a garden where some trees were growing, and the roots of them were severed. Those on the opposite side of the drain were found to be sprouting vigorously. They produced the same quality and variety of fruit as the original plant.

The Southern darky goes' into ecstasy over this fruit. He regards it as far superior to the native persimmon. The pulp is yellow, fleshy, and refreshing. It makes a delicious preserve. The tree grows from 12 to 20 feet high. As it is hardy in the south of England and on the Channel Islands, its adaptation to the climate of Florida is not surprising.

The guava (Psidium quara) did not stand the late Southern winter as well as the Japanese plum. All were more or less injured, with the exception of what is known as the Prideum Cattleyanum. This seemed to stand the winter better than the other kinds. The plant has been cultivated largely in California. Down the East coast, and in the lower parts of Florida, the guava thrives under proper cultivation. Each family has three or four trees, and turns the fruit into jelly very much as people in the do the current, apple, and fruits. These guava jellies, unlike the most of those imported, are unadulterated. No man has ever tasted guava jelly who has not tasted is not a native of Florida, but of the West Inlies. The seeds were undoubtedly brought to the East coast by the Spaniards centuries ago. The guava is planted more extensively

along Key Biscayne Bay and the Miami River

than in the northern part of the State. Here it thrives in a latitude below the frost line. Northern energy and native industry are baving as good results in south Florida as in Alabama and Georgia. In time to come, south Florida and Georgia. In time to come, south Florida promises to be a perfect Eden for the production of the comforts and necessaries of life.

The guava like the pineapple and the banana makes good returns on a small outlay of labor. Humboldt said that the banana feeds more people than any other plant that can be named. He added that it was a custom in some tropical countries for those who were to be married, to start a banana plantation nine months before the wedding. The banana fruits in nine months, and continues to bear overy month in the year. At the end of forty years the plantation, with mederate care, is better than nine months after it was begun. Within this time a small plantation, six by eight feet, in one of the green houses at the Botanic Garden in Washington has turned out 200 bunches. These bunches have been plucked and eaten by some of the most distinguished men in the country. Among them were Senaras Worsen. and eaten by some of the most distinguished men in the country. Among thom were Senaturs Morgan. Seward. Pearce, Fessenden. Collamer. Conkling. Crittenden. and Beck.
Another Japanese plant is the Magnolia fuscata, known in the South as the banana shrub, an evergreen, slow growing, powerfully scented when the sun shines. There is a magnificent specimen at Mrs. Mitchell's, untouched by the frost.

A delicious sweet, white flowering, vice.

shrub, an evergreen, slow growing, powerfully scented when the sun shines. There is a magnificent specimen at Mrs. Mitchell's, untouched by the frost.

A delivious, sweet, white-flowering vine, with a long botanical name. Trachelospermun, was growing nearly everywhere. It covered tredises and arches, and perfumed the night airnear every residence. It was in full flower in the latter part of April, although the books say that it flowers in July. Like the other plants, it was brought from Japan.

Another Japanese plant which showed evidences of the severity of the winter was the Loquat or Japanese mediar the information of the lower in July. Like the other plants, it was brought from Japan. It is a good-sized tree of the apple family. In Japan it is cultivated for lief fruit, which is about the size of a small plum. Hanging from the tree in clusters, it has the flavor of an apple. The plant is cultivated in Australia and in southern Europe, and undoustedly thrives better in southern than in northern Florida. In northern Floridat requires a sheltered situation, as it is apt to be affected by the cold winds.

This plant was brought to America by Commodore Perry. It was evidently considered a great rarity, for one of Perry's fifty glass cases of plants was filled with it, it had hardly found its way to the Botanic Garden before Mrs. Jefferson Davis, whose husband was then Secretary of War, saw the glass case. She is an admirer of plants and a thorough botanical scholar. Throwing up her hands in astonishment she said:

"What did they bring that here for? It is already growing rank in Mississippi. I can bring you bushels of seed if you want it."

Next fail she brought a peak of the seed with her own hands to the superintendent of the garden. He raised the plants and distributed them throughout the country. It would be in-

IV. Every few months Northern newspapers contain articles descriptive of a tea plantation in the South. We saw no such plantation nor could we locate one. There were plenty of tea trees, however, around Jacksonville. Mrs. Mitchell has some magnificent specimens in her garden. The most thrifty were seen in the beautiful winter home of Gen. Alexander S. Diven. No attempt to set out a tea plantation has been made. The shrubs grow in a cluster in the shade of a magnificent live oak, near his orange grove. He has also set them out along the paths of his garden. The ground beneath the clump was covered with tea seeds. They resemble small hazel nuts. Mrs. Diven some time ago prepared the leaves according to formula and sent them to the Cincinnati Exposition. She received a premium in return for her efforts. This year she is doing better still. She has sent quite a quantity to the

World's Columbian Exposition.

Gen. Diven takes great pride in showing specimens of the tea to his visitors. It has a fine leaf and looks like the black tea of commerce. One thing is certain: The leaf was free from poisonous dyes. None of it was steeped, however, and we had no opportunity to test its quality.

Almost every place of note in Florida has one or more tea strubs growing upon it. No one seems to think it worth cultivation except as an ornamental shrub. Any effort to grou it with a view to making money by its sale seems to have been abandoned. Whatever the advantages of climate and soil, it cannot enter into competition with the ten grown in China

into competition with the test grown in China under the present conditions of labor in the two countries. In the Celestial Empire workmen receive not more than six centes a day. In Formosa, where much of our test comes from the laborers are paid even less. Somewhat similar conditions exist in India, where test is successfully raised for commerce.

The fea hush is a pretty everteen, and nearly allied to the camellia. It produces a profusion of little white thowers in the winter and spring, at the same time as the camellia. The shrunders are sufficiently allied to the camellia. It produces a profusion of little white thowers in the winter and spring, at the same time as the camellia. The shrunders are sufficiently as and the Margar and a relative of the orange family. The flowers of the first own and the Margar and the Margar and the Margar and the Margar and the former are said to be worth sate a day. The flowers of the country is centes a day. The effect of the country is centes a day. The death of the former and the Margar a

One of the most interesting of Japanese plants thriving in Flori is is the Acales papy. fere, or rice paper plant. It passed through this trying winter without any severe inpury. It is a small tree of the lvy family. It grows to a height of ten or twelve feet. The stem is from three to four inches in diameter. The interior is full of white pith like the pith of the elder. This is the plant from which genuine rice paper is manufactured. Its leaves are soft and downy, shaped somewhat like the leaves of the castor bean.

The plant producing this paper was long unknown to botanists. The Chinese carefully guarded the secret, so as to monopolise the

manufacture of the paper. The paper is made from the pith of the tree. It averages about an inch in diameter. After being removed, it is cut into pieces about three inches long. By the aid of a lath and the use of a sharp instrument it is reduced into a thin roll, and it is this roll which becomes the rice paper. Whether the rice paper used in the manufacture of cigarettes is the genuine Chinese rice paper or

er the rice paper used in the manufacture of cigareties is the genuine Chinese rice paper or the product of some other fibre is a secret known only to the manufacturer.

At Keystone Bluff the botanists as whe sacred bamboo Naudana domestor, in flower for the first time. It is a native of China and Japanese holidaya. The bright pink ouds delighted Superintendent Smith. He had nourished the plant for years in the Botanic Garden, but had never brought it to flower.

A fine specimen of the Cryptomaria japonica, a valuable timber tree of Japan, was also seen. It is winter killed in Washington, but seems to be doing well in Jacksonville.

Botanist Smith laughed when he saw Bochmeria siren growing along the St. Johns. It is known as grass cloth. It recalled an early adventure of the Superintendent of the garden. Thirty-live years ago he was busy scattering the plant over the United States. He had seen small quantities of cloth manufactured from it, and determined to secure enough to make a suit of clothes. He thought that it would be just the thing for warm weather, as it was light, white, and enduring. On the day that the suit was sent home from the tailor's he was invited to dinner at Silver Springs by Gen. Jackson a great friend. Francies. Blain. A number of Congressmen were invited to dine with him.

Mr. Smith went on horseback, and, as the

Mr. Smith went on horseback, and, as the Mr. Smith went on horseback, and, as the day was very warm, wore his grasscloth sult and a white beaver. A thunder storm came up. When half may to Silver Springs he was caught in a drenching rain. The white beaver was ruined, but the grasscloth sult was a sight to behold. When wet it is perfectly transparent. The only thing that protected the botanist from curious eyes was his underclothing. His companions roared with laughter at his condition. He was so chagrined that he dismounted, tied his horse to a fence, entered the woods, and communed with nature until nightfall, when he returned home.

Amos J. Cumminos. AMOS J. CUMMINOS.

TULIPS THAT HERALD THE SPRING. Holland Propagates These Gay Flowers Now Blazing in the City Parks,

That merchant of Antwerp who, receiving a present of priceless tully bulbs, cooked them by mistake for onions, could scarcely have shocked the Dutch lovers of tulips more than would the extravagance of this town in the matter of those splendid bloasoms. The brief glory of the tulip and hyacinth beds measures the duration of New York's essentially northern spring. The blossoms come in that de lightful breathing space between the chill winds that linger late in April and the intense summer-like heats that begin to burn before the end of May. To the Dutchman, taught to love, almost to revere, the tullp and hyacinth, the idea of letting those blossoms spend themselves in three weeks or less unprotected beneath the suns of May would seem sheer wasteful folly. It was the Dutch who taught all the rest of the world to force these bulbs into bloom at Christmas, to keep up a succession of blossoms indoors all winter, and with the advent of spring to linger out by many devices those that blossom in the contrivances, the people of Holland prolong nature's water color exhibition with its airy splendors of delicate and of glorious tints until summer has fairly set in.
All the world has bought bulbs of Holland

for the matter of two and a half centuries. Six varieties of hyacinths are known to have been cultivated in Holland nearly three centuries ago. In 1870 many single and double varieties bloomed in English gardens. Less than a century later fifty single varieties and nearly 100 double varieties were contained in the catalogues of two celebrated Dutch growers. It is recorded that the Queen of Women. a single white variety of Dutch origin, produced from thirty-four to thirty-eight flowers on its spike. When this bulb first appeared it sold for \$20. One bulb of the Conqueror, a blue hyacinth, sold for \$40; one of the Mundi for \$200, one of King Solomon for \$240. By the middle of the eighteenth century the Dutch growers had successfully produced flowers from bulbs placed in water glasses. Many were then grown from the seed.

The splendid flower thus developed by

Dutch patience and intelligence in the light,

favorable soil of Holland, and under friendly skies, has for ancestor the so-called Oriental hyacinth, an insignificant flower bearing on its spike a few small faint blue blossoms. The spikes from strong modern Dutch bulbs measure from six to seven inches in length and from seven to nine inches in circumference. The individual flower has increased in size, and its colors have been intensified. The Dutch florists send many thousands of cut hyacinths over to England, besides an enormour number of bulbs for winter forcing and outdoor planting. The double hyacinth was first produced toward the close of the saveuteenth century, when there was a craze for new varieties, but the world has decided that the single hyacinth is the finer flower. Of these there are now several hundred varieties. Dutch tulips are even more famous than Dutch hyacinths. The Park Department buys between 80,000 and 90,000 tulip bulbs a year from Holland, and nearly all the rulies. skies, has for ancestor the so-called Oriental

ing, but the profits of the place at present accrue from a ten-acre persimmon lot. For several years, during the seasons of ripening fruit, hordes of 'possums invaded the grove. causing much annoyance, creating a great deal of havee, and affording the neighborhood Africans such ample sustenance that the idea of work faded into a dream demon of far-off One morning, when faced with the triple problem of uncared-for crops, scarcity of labor, and a glut of 'possum, Mr. Throckmorton evolved a scheme. He would put a high board fence about that pestilent grove and keep the little brutes away. Soon the fence was completed, but a lot of 'possums. who knew how to hang to a good thing when they got it, still dangled from the branches of the trees. Then the planter considered once more, and said to himself: "Since I cyant get shet of these fellers, why not raise and sell 'em?" Hence the Lime Creek 'possum farm. It is a marsupial paradise. The ground has been strewn with hollow tree trunks and decaying logs, and the 1,506 tenants of the grove wax fat as they journey toward the dinner table. They are chiefly in evidence when taking their noon nap, and near even-ing when they are fed. It is a curious sight to see them hanging from the persimmon branches by their talls, sound asleep and swaying in the warm breeze. Ever and anon a brood of little ones may be seen to leave the paternal pouch, climb up the maternal body, and play hide and seek among the leaves. But for this, all is quiet. Not so at feeding time. When Black Pete opens the gate and pushes in a barrow load of garbage and vegetables, none so popular as he. The possums, squealing, scratching, and fighting for vantage ground, soon satisfy their hunger and retire from view with the shades of night. When their favorite fruit is ripe they feed on that, and what with natural and artificial diet they are in splendid condition at holiday Then the orders pour in and the slaughter begins. No Georgian and no Southern Congressman detained at Washing-ton by press of public business would think of altting down to a Christmas dinner ungraced by possum and sweet potatoes with grave. The precedent was established some years ago by Congressman Stewart of Griffin and

The precedent was established some years and by Congressman Stewart of Griffin and Congressman Barnes of Augusta.

Like Mr. Throckmorton, Col. Phocion Howard of Illinois by chance undertook a queer enterprise. The Colonel had been a newspaper man from his youth up, and through extensive travel and observation probably knew more of North America than any living man. An inveterate joker, numerous recopis owed him one for humorous outbreaks or harmless plofs that had made them food for the laughter of their fellows. Almost a decade ago Col. Howard invited several Irlends to dine with him at the Leiand Hotel Springfield. Ill., the occasion being the fortieth auniversary of his beginning newspaper work. The least over the flow of old bourbon began—the Colonel, by the way, detested rye as an invention of the devil, distilled for the purpose of giving a gentleman the jim jams —and the veterans became reminiscent. Judge Logan, the friend of Lincoin, talked about the days of saddle bags and circuit riding. Senator Tom Merritt stuttered through one of his inimitatile Southers lilinois stories, and Phocion nimself produced his "back-action fiddle"—he handlesi the bow with his left hand—and aung to his own accompaniment that ditty of pioneer days beginning:

Way down upon the Wabash Such land was never seen.

Way down upon the Wabash Such land was never seen. And ending:

Then bring your families Westward, Good health you will enjoy. And rise to westh and honor in the State of Halenoy. Thereafter rose Dr. Ryan, an old man eloquent, now dead, who could make poetical a dissertation on the bones of the human body. With much feeling he spoke of the lengthening years that all had been a quainted, and in behalf of those assembled, presented to Col. Howard an elegant punch bowl, from which to drink to the memory of the donors, as they fall like withered leaves and return ence more to the bosom of kindly nature. "And also," concluded the Doctor, "I present to you this document, which shows in what eateam you are held by sundry of our state capital's oftizens. They are not with us to-day, but they ask me to voice their sentiments. In your vigorous old age you have taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife, you are the father of a young taken a wife young intervals wherever the formations of the mountain will permit. The height of the cable mountain will permit. The height of the will p

Berry molited coward the close of the service of the control of th

QUEER FARMERS THESE.

THEIR CROPS ARE WILD REASTS, SIRDS, AND REPTILES.

The 'Possum Ramen Communical by Ped Disamble's Neighbor How a Newspaper Man Recame a Very Able Grower of Free.

ATLANTA, May 19.—All the world bas heard of Ped Dismuke, but few people save 'possum epicures are cognizant of the life and good works of Mr. William Throckmorton. Yet Griffin, in this State, claims them both, and each in his way has done much to fix attention on that thriving city of the New South.

The meteor-like political career of Mr. Dismuke will long be remembered, and it is to te hoped that future generations will also recognize the merit of Mr. Throckmorton, the Father of the 'possum industry.

On Lime Creek, a few miles west of Griffin, is Mr. Throckmorton's home. Much of the plantation is adanted to agriculture and grazing, but the profits of the place at present accrue from a ten-acre persimmon lot. For

AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE. Swaying in an Ore Bucket Four Hundred Feet Above the Earth.

Prom New York Railroad Mrs. In Denver it was recently reported that the Smuggler Mine of Telluride, Col., would close down, owing to the low price of silver. This being one of the largest producing mines of the State, the natural inference was that many of the men employed therein would leave the country. In behalf of my company the Rock Island) I started for Telluride, on the Rio Grande Southern Railway, and arrived at my destination Wednesday evening. Mr. N. T. Mansfield, manager of the Smuggler, in his cosey little office that night, told me the company had decided upon a reduction of wages instead of closing down, and that word had been sent to the mine that day, but the men's answer had not yet been received. He further told me that at this season of the year there was but one way to get to the mine. and that was by taking the bucket tramway. as the trail was covered with snow and ice and practically impassible. The bucket tram. he added. was itself far from a desirable method of transportation and liable to try a man's nerve pretty well, but if I would undertake the trip he would accompany me.

What could a man say to a proposition of that kind but "Yes?" Accordingly, bright and early the next morning, which was one of the fairest and beautiful I have ever seen in the mountains, horses were in readiness and, accompanied by Mr. W. C. Green, who is connected with the San Miguel Mining Company of Teiluride, we started out. The ride of two miles to Pandora was most enjoyable, by reason of the fording of innumerable streams

miles to Pandora was most enjoyable, by reason of the lording of innumerable streams which crossed the road. Our horses displayed wonderful sagacity in picking their way through many a treacherous spot.

Arriving at the loot of the tram and getting a faint idea of what was a head of me, seeing the buckets coming down hundreds of feet above us and discharging their cargoes of ore into the immense shute, my courage almost failed me, but it required more nerve than I could muster to back out. I tried to appear as little disconcerted as possible, while Mr. Mansfield, who was to start first, curied up in his little bucket, which was only large enough to hold an ordinary sized man in a most uncomfortable and cramped position. The endless cable was then put in motion and out swung the manager on his perilous journey. I cannot help thinking how much more nerve he displayed than either Mr. Green or I, but he had been over it before, and knew what was ahead of him. Three hundred feet behind Mr. Mansfield's bucket came another, and into this climbed Mr. Green. As his bucket started up that incline I felt that I had loat my last friend, as there was absolutely nothing lest then between me and comfort but disgrace.

The men in attendance I saw were watching me, as I was the first "tenderfoot" who had ever undertaken the trip. Once more assuming a courage I fait not, I awaited my bucket smilingly. When it came along was obliged to remove my overcoat in order to get in. Crouching down in a sitting posture, tailor fashion, there was just room to stay in and that was all, and with a parting injunction to "keep my tail up." the man in charge switched me on to the main line and I swung out of the doorway fifty feet above the ground. The rate of speed was about 25 miles per hour, and the total length of the tram 3.40 feet—a little over a mile. In that mile, however, we had to rise I 1,820 feet—a little more than one foot in three. The endless cable to which the buckets are attached passes over numerous tail wooden trestles, varyin

PENNSYLVANIA BATTLERS.

Unity Varminto to Silv Up, They Are, but Skunk Proved Too Much for One Sanke,

SCRANTON, May 20.—"The rattlesnake, like the skunk," said an old rattlesnake hunter. 'minds its own business and doesn't interfere with any other creature, unless it is molested In an old wood road one spring I got sight of a rattlesnake and a pheasant near together The pheasant was picking seeds on the ground, and the enake's eyes were glittering at it from the centre of its coll, so I kept back expecting to see the rattler strike at the bird, in case it came near enough. I soon noticed that the pheasant was crippled, but that it picked all around the rattlesnake, as though t didn't see it, although the snake moved its head and eyed the bird. When the pheasant had limped around in front of the snake it was not more than a quarter of the snake's length away from the coil, but the rattler didn't stir. and the bird continued to feed, with its tall toward the snake. All of a snuden a wildcat pounced on the pheasant from the side of the road, and just as suddenly the rattler shot out its head, struck its fangs in the wildcat's left shoulder, and colled again. The wildcat leaped into the air with a scream, the pheas ant fluttered into the brush, and the snake struck again just as the wildcat came down. hitting it in the ribe. The wildcat sprang upon a log, and began to bite its side, and the rattler threw itself into a coll and glared at it. In a moment the wildcat gave a cry. jumped down and started to run around the snake, sissing and spitting till the rattler struck again but failed to reach. It coiled once more and like a flash the wildcat got its teeth in the back of its neck, frendering the snake power less to use its fangs, and while the rattler was writhing the wildcat ripped its body into strips with its lind claws. Then the wildcat got upon the log and began to lick its shoulder, but in three or four minutes it tumbled off, had a spasm or two, and stretched out as dead as the snake was.

"While engaged in killing many hundreds."

with its lind claws. Then the wildest got upon the log and began to lick its shoulded but in three or four minutes it tumbled off, had a spasm or two, and stretched out as dead as the snake was.

"While engaged in killing many hundreds of rattlesnakes for their oi!" the old hunter added. "I have never seen but one fight between a rattler and a blacksnake, and that battle ended very differently from some of the fights my friends tell about having witnessed between the same kinds of reptiles. The rattlesnake was stretched out on a rock, under a sumach limb, and as I approached to pin it down, it threw itself into a coll and raised its head toward the sumach, in the top of which there was a blacksnake. I had heard so much about the ability of the blacksnake to break a rattler ail up that I backed off in the expectation of seeing it done with my own eyes. The blacksnake soon dropped its head and about two feet of its body from the limb directly over the rattlesnake, where it remained stationarr, the two snakes eying one another like gamecocks ready for a battle. In a short time the blacksnake lot its head swing from right to left, and at that the rattlesnake buzed a little, ran out its tongue, and moved its head, so as to keep track of the blacksnake lowered itself allittle swinging, the blacksnake lowered itself allittle further, and when the heads of the two were about three feet apart the blacksnake sild from the tree so quickly that I couldn't see how it did it, and is the next instant the jaws pounding the blacksnake when the rattle was pounding the blacksnake in the rot was completely disabled, when it loosened itself all from the two were locked, and the rattler was pounding the blacksnake tried to seize it the thone can be appeared to the lacksnake and for loud the sea had for out the body so often on a rock, and immediately began to rattle violentity and challenge one another. When they had got within a site of the rattle ranke of long and hitting each other in the peck and on the tail of either, they had

HOW SALMON TAKE THE FLY.

And How They Fight After They Take It-

"A salmon doesn't take the fly as a trout angler for this king of fish. "It is only while the salmon is lving at rest in pools, the reposing water at the foot of some swift rapid, or the silent starting place of such a rapid, that it will respond to the fisherman's cast. Salmon may be moving along by the thousand in the deep stretches of a stream that extend perhaps for a mile between rapids, but the angler might drop his flies above them for a year, if it were possible, without ever being rewarded by a single rise. The pool is the place to whip, and the time early morning or late in the afternoon. If the epicurean denizen of the pool is so inclined there is sport ahead for the angler. He drops his fly lightly on the water, and the salmon in the humor will rise to it and seize it at once.

"Then the excitement begins. It is divided between the fish and the fisherman. The more the salmon tries to get out of trouble the deeper he gets the angler in. The fish no sooner feels the hook in his jaw than he seems to realize that he has got to get it out as soon as possible or it will be bad for him. Then things begin to boil. The first thing the fisherman knows a hundred feet of line have spun from his reel, and he thinks he is in for a long chase down stream, when suddenly the salmon doubles and dashes straight back toward the boat. Then there is work for the angler if he expects to reel again in good time. No sooner is the line taut once more than the salmon feels its tension through the hook in his jaw, and the chance are that the will shoot upward and out the depths again. Its upward and out the depths again tearing this way not that way, darting around and areund, and making lively work for the fisherman and the way, darting around and areund, and making lively work for the fisherman and the head to start down stream like asteam engine. Dutting the guide at his best to keep the load of the death of the destrous and watchful the contest a first may last an hour or more, and if the angler is skillful and cool, and his guide, or gafman, dexterous and watchful the contest should have but one ending, and evolution of the cance. If the angler is not a skilful and cool, in the fight will also have but do not ending. The glittering prize will not be streteed on the bottom of the cance, tut in a skilful and cool, in the fight will also have but do not ending. The glittering prize will not be streteed on the bottom of the cance, tut in a skilful and cool, in the fight will also have but one congrantsting halms with a salmon that the shearman most lears and dreads is the liability of the she host will also have but one one worthy of his area.

The one thing in a light with a salmon that the shearman most lears and dreads is the shearman most learn and the bottom of file sounds and he must possess his soul in patience, and the many learn and the shear and the in the slack of the line and get it taut again in good time. No sooner is the line taut once more than the salmon feels its ten-

THESE WOMEN SUCCEED.

PROFIT AND PLEASURE DERIVED FROM COMMERCIAL HORIICULTURE.

Fruits and Flowers in the West, and Par-iteniarly on the Pacific Const. Instances of Success. How Some Starts Were Made. The Californian Illustrated Magazine prints an article on "Women in Commercial Horticulture." It is written by one of the women who by careful study, hard work, and much experience has been surprisingly successful in the enterprise. She owned the first orchard planted for commercial purposes in Mississippi, and personally superintended the pruning and planting of the trees. While waiting for pecuniary results she resolutely turned her attention to buying-for a small sum-the flowers that grew in neglected profusion in the home gardens about her, and shipping them to Northern cities. Her perfection in packing made this primitive industry such a financial success that it stimulated others to follow her in the new pursuit. The article gives luterest-

ing sketches of the experiences of other women

who are successful in horticulture, and proves

them highly capable of the financial manage

ment as well as the growing of flowers, fruit,

and vegetables.

Women of culture and refinement were the first to embark in this enterprise. Necessity in most cases seems to have been the chief incentive. Yet a few bravely claim love of nature and fondness for outdoor life as their only motive. One philosophical and serious minded woman exceeds all others in her nobility of purpose. Being left a widow with four boys, she went into the orchard business, not knowing one tree from another. In order to establish the foundation of a perfect character, through industry, in her children. She possessed money enough to gratify every wish, yet her one ambition was "to teach her boys by force of example to be industrious and self-supporting." She purchased thirty-six acres of land near San José, Cal., and under her own personal care. aided by her boys, it was planted in cherry. apricot, and prune trees. For four years she did all the pruning, a difficult task for a refined. delicate woman, accustomed to luxurious ease, but the lesson she sought to teach made it a cheerful labor of love, bringing satisfactory moral returns as well as remuneration. Her prune trees alone netted \$2,700 last year.

The widow of one of San Francisco's popuar bankers, once a favorite in society. stands at the head of the cut flower tracts near San Mateo, Cal., where her taste in floral decoration is preeminent. Left with no fortune except a small piece of land, she promptly seized the first opportunity for means of support by turning this into a veritable flower garden. She has now 140 acres under a high state of cultivation, and gives her personal attention to every branch of the business, irrigation included. With seven acres of orchard, five of violets, seven of chrysanthemums, and a proportionate share of roses and other flowers, her stock in trade must be a delight to the eye, and quite as pleasing to the senses as the satisfactory income which it brings She is excelled by none in the nanagement of this vast garden of blooming fragrance, and accomplishes the work with perfect ease, finding pienty of time and incitpation to help the needy and unfortunate.

A real rose ranch of sixteen agree and a

practical manufactory for the extraction of perfume from flowers and plants is to be found in the foothills near Los Gatos. It is managed by the wife of a San Francisco physician, and she thoroughly understands the sician, and she thoroughly understands the business, having lived in the towns in France where the extraction of perfume is the principal occupation. Her samples of rose extract are found to be fully equal to the imported. This is looked upon by these enterprising California ladies as a coming and profitable industry for women.

One enterprising woman has developed a lucrative business by propagating and ship-One enterprising woman has developed a lucrative business by propagating and shipping camelilas, which are especially adapted to the soil and elimate of California. She has an original method of packing these delicate blossoms so that their perfect condition brings hera high price in market. Another has become famous as a bulb and seed grower, without the impetus of grinding poverty. Pure love of nature and adventure led her to develop all the resources within herself, and she now "proposes to make her miniature farm a supply depot of everything rare and valuable within the limits of her climate and locality." She met with many rebuffs in her first ventures, because as a seed grower her name was unknown in the market, but by adopting a system of exchange she succeeded in gaining Lastern appreciation of her seeda, and now orders come from every part of the United States and Europe. The experiments net with marveilous success, and her novelties attract widesprand attention.

united States and Europe. The experiments met with marvellous success, and her novel-ties attract widespread attention.

A typical Southern woman, highly educated and accomplished and belonging to one of the first families of Mississippi, was the first to successfully ship roses to the North. She has a method of transplanting them in water so they can be sent long distances, and arrive as free in a when they were first noticed.

a method of transplanting them in water so they can be sent long distances and arrive as fresh as when they were first packed. Finding that early vegetables bring high prices, she turned her attention to the more practical side of horticulture. By keeping herself informed of all the discussions in the horticultural conventions, and promptly planting those things which are not specially advised, she is always sure of what will be in demand, and is never caught on an overstness dimarket. A beginner in floriculture has made a wonderful success in propagating chrysanthemums, increasing her varieties from 80 to 32b in one year, bhe went into the business for physical benefit, and is so delighted with the result that she advises "all women to burn up their embroidery and knitting and have a garden, however small, with a view to dissipating headaches and weak nerves by working in the fresh air smd sunlight."

"Carmelita." a wonderful home near Pasadena is the outcome of a woman's ability and energy. Her husband and herself had both been important members of college faculties, but when he became an invalid she took what little money they possessed and invested in forty-three acres of sheep pasture, for which are paid \$75 an acre. She conceived the idea of making this a "blooming garden end apaying one." With no help it was a difficult undertaking, but her courage never falled, and in live years her orchard was complete. Fortune graciously rewarded her efforts in the fifth year by building Pasadena, which increased the price of her land to \$2,000 an acre. No other place in the State is said to have such a fine variety of trees and plants, vines and flowers.

This promising list of successful women attests that women can succeed in horticulture. The writer of the article closes with an appeal to have horticulture added to the course of study in female colleges of this country, as if is in England.

A PLAGUE OF PLEAS.

In Pessession of Many Houses and the Own